

**For Immediate Release
June 15, 2010**

City of Columbus To Begin Adjusting Parking Meter Rates Today

City of Columbus Parking Violations Bureau staff today is beginning the process of adjusting all its 4,215 parking meters to new rates and durations. All adjustments to existing meters, including signage and stickers on meters, will be completed around Labor Day. Motorists should check posted signs and stickers on meters for updated pricing, duration and hours of operation when parking at a meter.

The first meters being adjusted are along Grandview Avenue and in the Franklinton area. The new and simpler single rate zone for meters will replace the old six pricing zones. The rates for all meters citywide will be:

- 30 minute meters: \$1.00 per hour (50 cents to max out meter)
- Two, three and six hour meters: \$0.75 per hour
- 12 hour meters: \$0.40 per hour

All current one-hour meters will be converted to two-hour meters. Hours of enforcement will be extended to 10 p.m. in restaurant, theatre and other evening entertainment areas, including Downtown, the Arena and Brewery Districts, the North Market and Short North, Grandview Avenue, the OSU area and Italian Village.

Current meter locations include:

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| • Arena District | • Grandview Avenue |
| • Brewery District | • Mt. Carmel Hospital |
| • COSI | • North Market area |
| • Columbus College of Art & Design | • Ohio State University area |
| • Columbus State Community College | • Short North |
| • Downtown area | |

The meter rates and hours adjustments are in preparation for the replacement of all 4,215 parking meters with smart meters that will accept credit cards, debit cards and coins. In addition to replacement of all existing meters, additional smart meters will be purchased to be installed in areas where no meters are currently located in downtown, the Brewery District, Short North, OSU area and Italian Village. The first 1,000 new smart meters will be installed this fall through the end of the year. About 1,000 new meters will be installed annually until all new meters are in place.

The new meter rates are the result of the Parking Meter Advisory Committee's recommendations submitted to Department of Public Service Director Mark Kelsey on April 20. The committee met January to April of this year. Per the City Code, changes in meter rates are enacted through orders of the Public Service Director.